

ENERGY, WATER AND CLEAN AIR: WHAT KIND OF LEADERSHIP DO AMERICANS WANT?

Conducted for

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Methodology

This report of a nationally representative telephone survey was conducted among a sample of 809 adults.

The survey was conducted during the period of December 26-29, 2012. Random samples of landline and cell phone telephone numbers were used.

The margin of error for the survey is plus or minus three percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level.

Executive Summary

Executive Summary

Overall, this survey shows that Americans are fine with more energy production in the U.S., but they are not willing to sacrifice clean water and air in the process. The poll findings indicate that Americans want political leadership that takes a balanced approach to production of energy – protecting clean water and air, and also promoting expanded energy efficiency and clean energy sources. No gap in views is found when Americans are asked in the “abstract” about energy-wide issues and when the focus then shifts to a concrete energy issue, such as shale gas fracking/exporting of liquefied natural gas.

LEADERSHIP ON ENERGY-WIDE ISSUES

Americans think strong leadership on energy, water and climate issues is important ...

- 94 percent want it on balancing calls for more energy production in U.S. with protecting clean water and air. Nearly three out of four Americans (73 percent) say that it is “very important” to find this balance. Solid bipartisan support exists for a balanced approach, including 92 percent of Republicans, 87 percent of Independents, and 98 percent of Democrats.
- 86 percent want it on addressing climate change and extreme weather. Relatively little partisan difference is seen on this point, with support for action coming from 75 percent of Republicans, 82 percent of Independents, and 95 percent of Democrats.
- 86 percent want it on shifting from coal and nuclear energy to wind and solar. Support for this approach exists across party lines, including 72 percent of Republicans, 83 percent of Independents, and 97 percent of Democrats.
- 86 percent want it on standing up to pressure from coal, oil, natural gas, and nuclear power lobbyists.

Executive Summary

- ◆ 91 percent of Americans feel it is important that their member of Congress demonstrate leadership on a “national agenda for clean energy and protecting America’s water and air.” More than two out of three Americans (68 percent) say this leadership is “very important.” The vast majority of Republicans (85 percent), Independents (87 percent), and Democrats (96 percent) agree on the need for such leadership.
- ◆ 86 percent of Americans think “the availability of ample clean drinking water should be a top national priority in the U.S.”
- ◆ 92 percent of American think “U.S. energy planning and decision making” should be based on “a comprehensive understanding of what our national water resources are” – a national water roadmap that Congress asked for, but which was never produced. No meaningful political divide is seen here, with the water roadmap attracting the support of 92 percent of Republicans, 89 percent of Independents, and 94 percent of Democrats.
- ◆ 80 percent of Americans think we “should get the facts first about health and environmental risks before the potential damage is done by energy production.” This “precautionary principle” approach is supported by 67 percent of Republicans, 82 percent of Independents, and 89 percent of Democrats.
- ◆ 72 percent of Americans say that “recent extreme weather events” – including Hurricane Sandy, the drought and Western wildfires – “are indications that climate change is happening now. It is time for national politicians to get serious about climate change.” Half of Americans strongly agree with this statement. In a rare example of clear partisan divide in the survey findings, Independents (71 percent) and Democrats (90 percent) are far more likely than Republicans (44 percent) to agree with this proposition.

Executive Summary

- ◆ How concerned are Americans about the possible impact of “drought and shortages brought on by the diversion of water for energy and other purposes”?
 - 91 percent are concerned about higher food prices.
 - 90 percent are concerned about “possible shortages of safe drinking water.” More than three out of four Americans (76 percent) are “very concerned” about such shortages.
 - 89 percent are concerned about higher gasoline prices.
 - 87 percent are concerned about increased water utility bills.
 - 73 percent are concerned about diminished recreation opportunities.
- ◆ 74 percent think a grassroots movement will be needed “to counter the influence of energy industry lobbyists and campaign contributions on politicians in Washington, D.C.”

LEADERSHIP ON FRACKING/EXPORTING SHALE GAS

When the question of leadership shifts from the abstract level to the concrete level, Americans remain consistent in their views:

- ◆ 88 percent want leadership when it comes to exercising caution on exporting energy – such as natural gas – that could boost China and other economies, but hurt U.S. consumers by raising energy and manufacturing costs at home. Nearly identical support levels were seen here along partisan lines: 88 percent of Republicans, 86 percent of Independents, 87 percent of Democrats.

Executive Summary

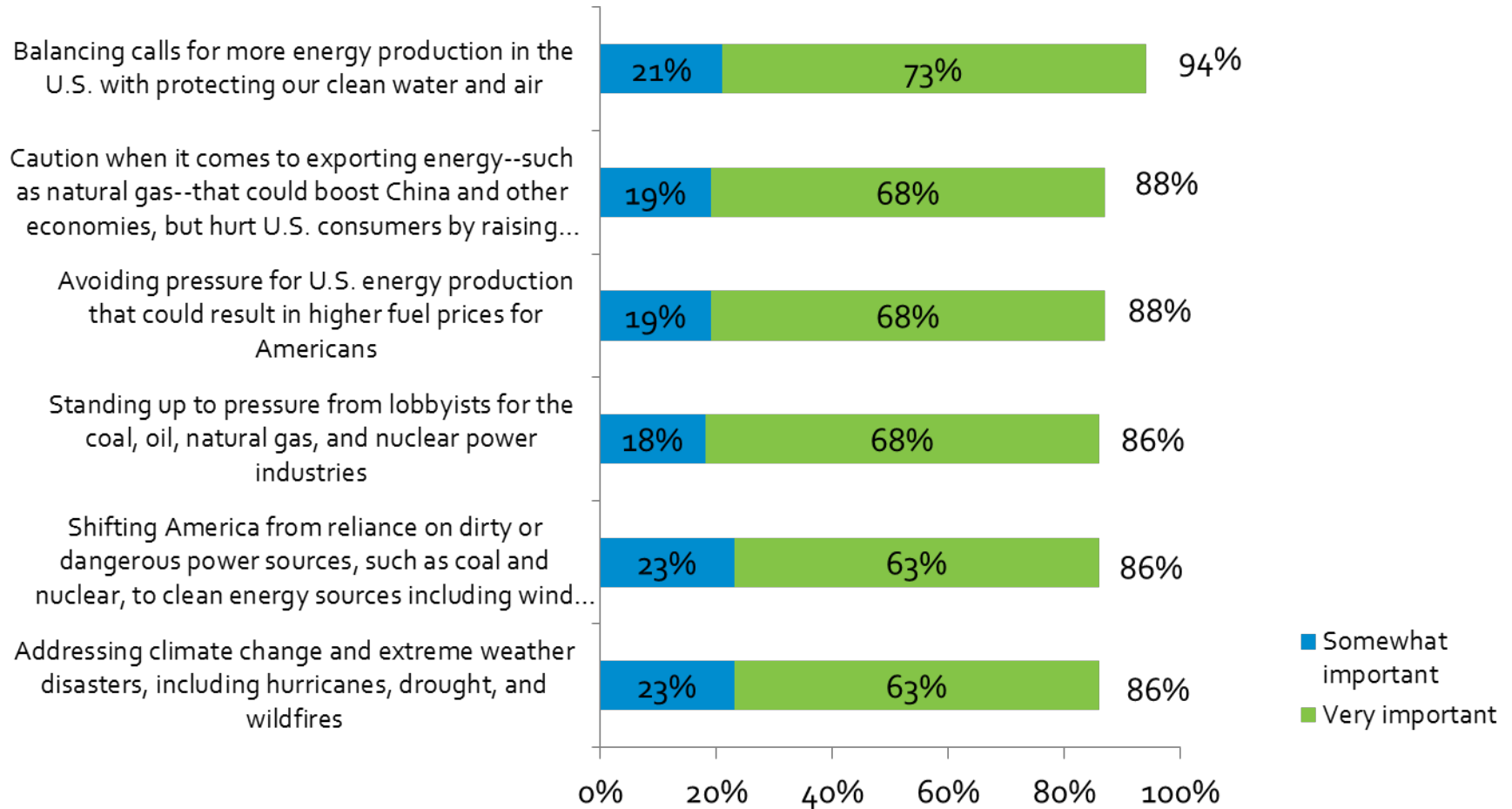
- ◆ 86 percent of Americans “support more studies of the health and environmental consequences of the chemicals” used in fracking. Supporters of this approach include 81 percent of Republicans, 84 percent of Independents, and 89 percent of Democrats.
- ◆ Only 17 percent of Americans favor development of U.S. energy resources for export purposes “to advance U.S. interests as a global economic power” versus 81 percent who think “America should produce enough energy to meet America’s needs in a way that doesn’t harm our clean water and air ...”
- ◆ 62 percent of Americans oppose “expanding U.S. production of shale gas for use by other nations” first before the health research is done, as recommended recently by more than 100 U.S. health professionals. This approach is supported by about half (49 percent) of Republicans, and over two thirds of Independents and Democrats, at 67 percent and 69 percent, respectively. Women support this approach over men by a 13-point margin, 68 percent versus 55 percent.

Executive Summary

- ◆ 88 percent want leadership on avoiding pressure for U.S. energy production that could result in higher fuel prices for Americans.
- ◆ Three quarters of Americans have heard of fracking, with 51 percent saying they are very or somewhat familiar with it.
- ◆ 79 percent of Americans are concerned about fracking “as it relates to water quality.” Women are much more likely than men to be concerned about fracking – 84 percent versus 73 percent, respectively.

Detailed Findings

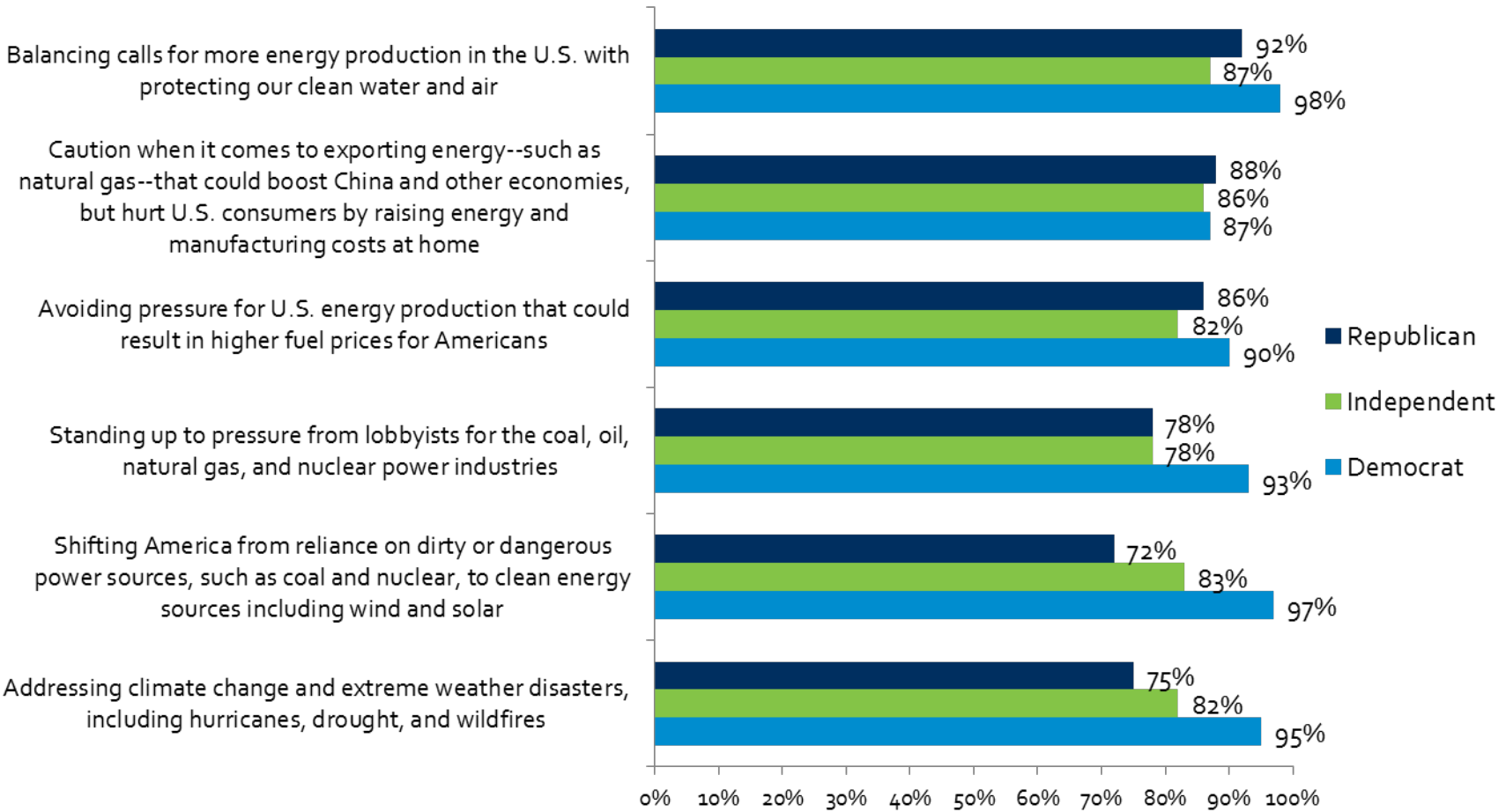
Importance of Strong Leadership on Energy Issues



A1. I want to ask you about your views on leadership. When you think about President Obama and the Congress, how do you feel about the need for strong leadership on the following issues? For each issue, would you say strong leadership is very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important.

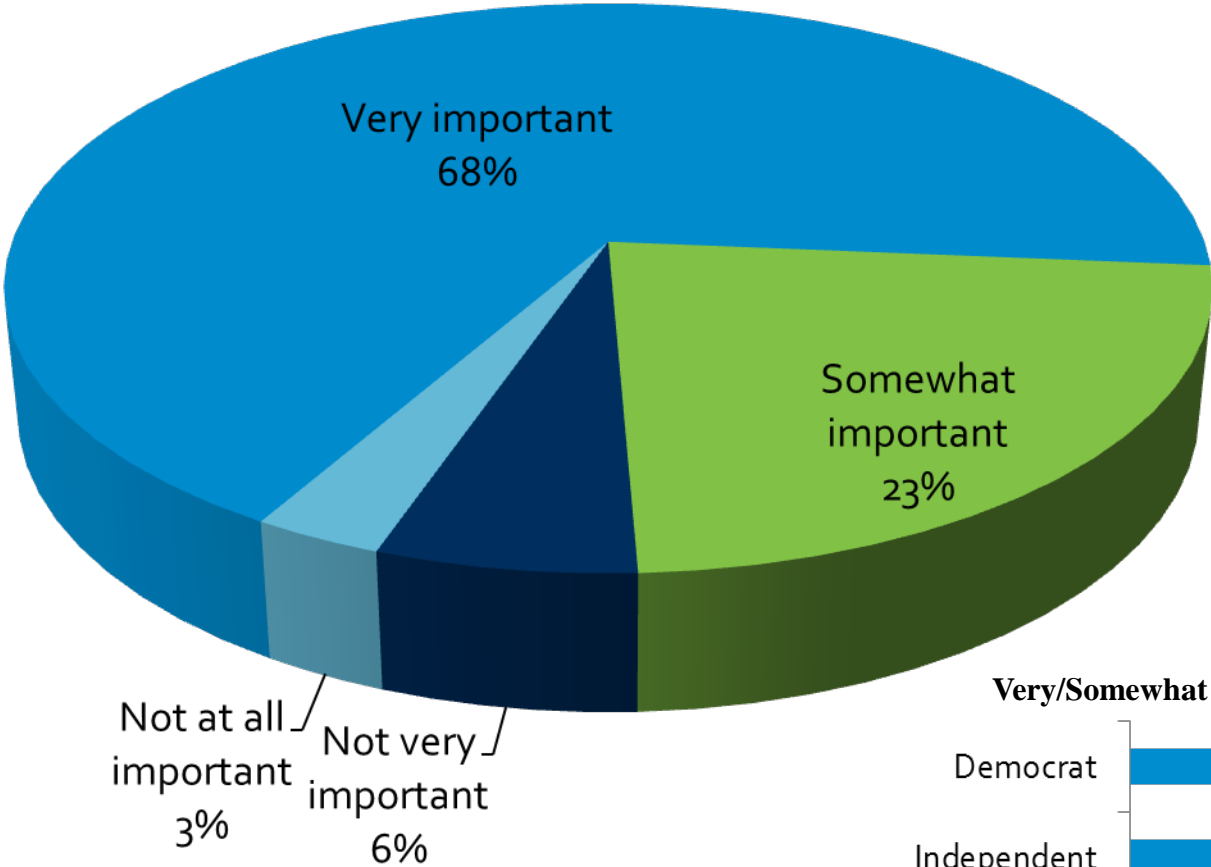
Importance of Strong Leadership on Energy Issues

By Party Identification

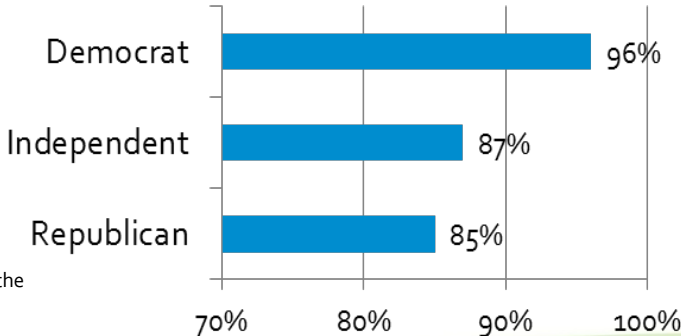


A1. I want to ask you about your views on leadership. When you think about President Obama and the Congress, how do you feel about the need for strong leadership on the following issues? For each issue, would you say strong leadership is very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important.

Most Americans (91%) See Congressional Leadership On Clean Energy As Important

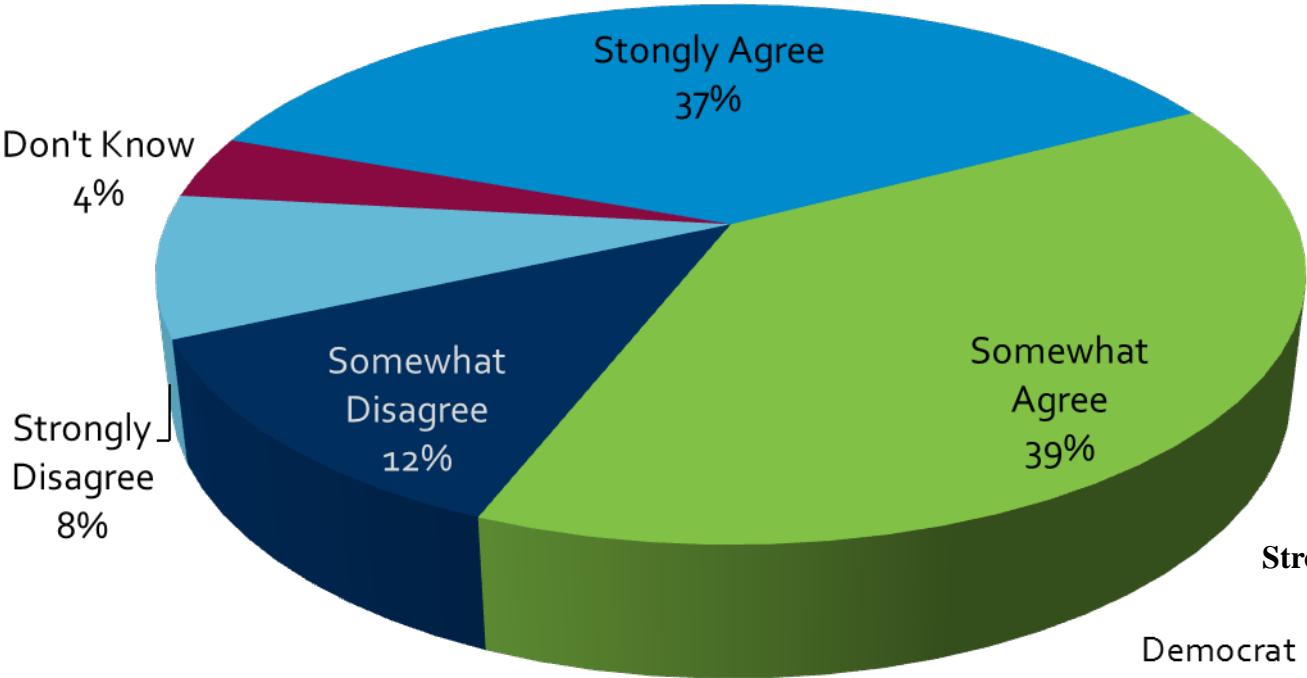


Very/Somewhat Important -- by Party

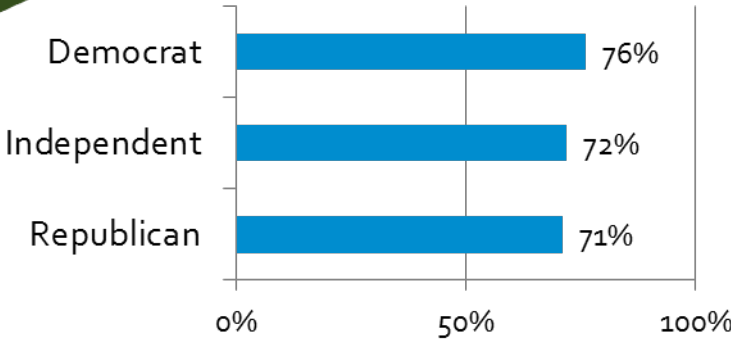


A2 How important do you think it is that your Member of Congress and U.S. Senators demonstrate leadership on the national agenda for clean energy and protecting America's clean water and air? Would you say...

Almost three quarters (74%) agree that 'A grassroots movement of Americans is necessary to counter the influence of energy industry lobbyists and campaign contributions on politicians in Washington, D.C.' is important.

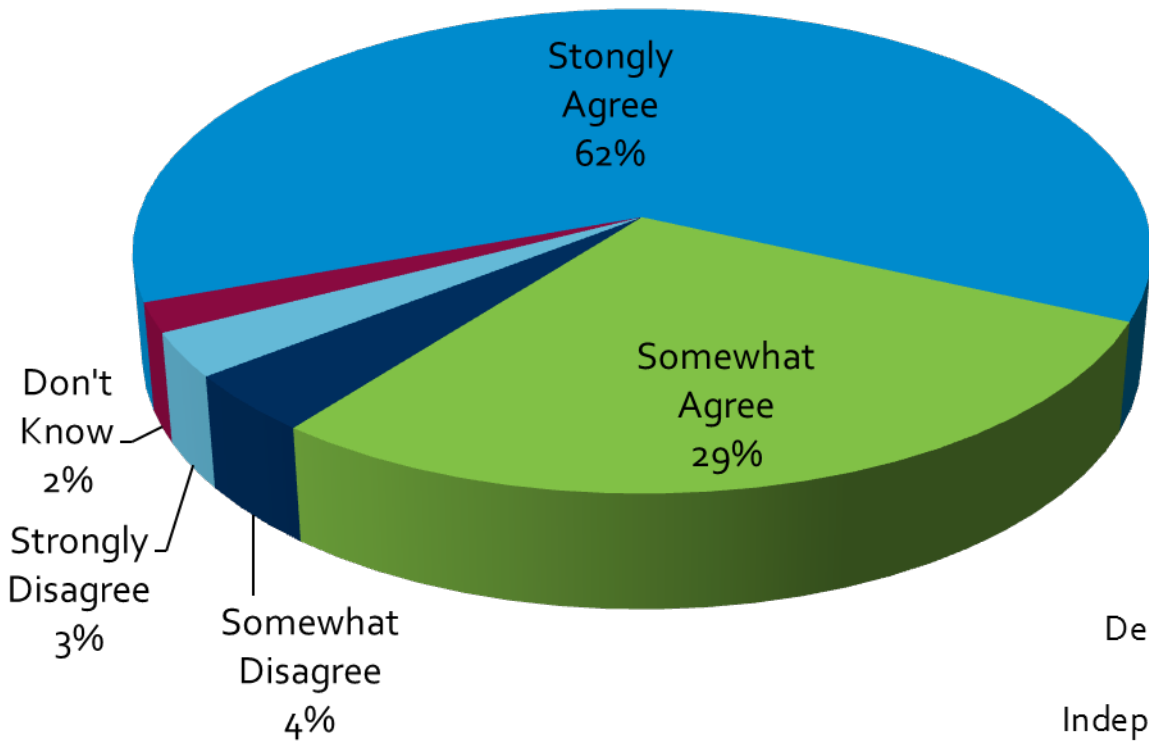


Strongly/Somewhat Agree -- by Party

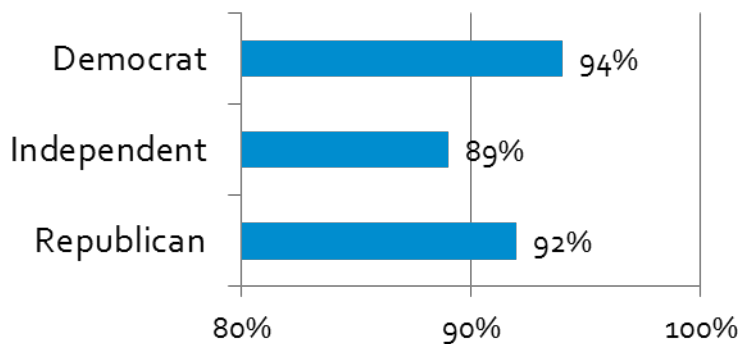


A3 Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statement. 'A grassroots movement of Americans is necessary to counter the influence of energy industry lobbyists and campaign contributions on politicians in Washington, D.C.' Would you say you...

Ninety-two percent agree that ' U.S. energy planning and decision making must be made with full knowledge and understanding about the availability of water regionally and locally, and the impact this water use from specific energy choices has on their economies, including agricultural production.'



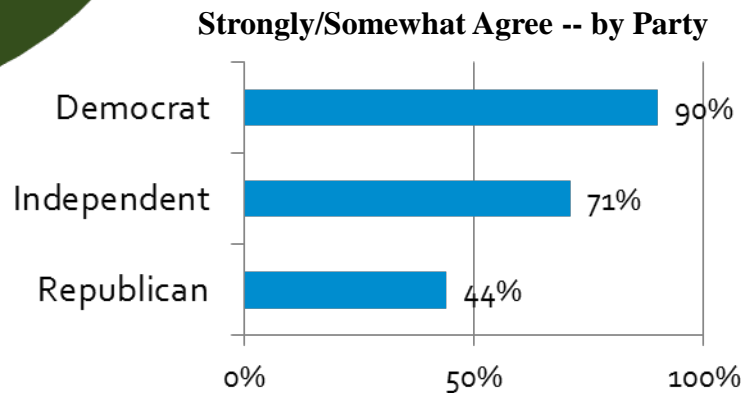
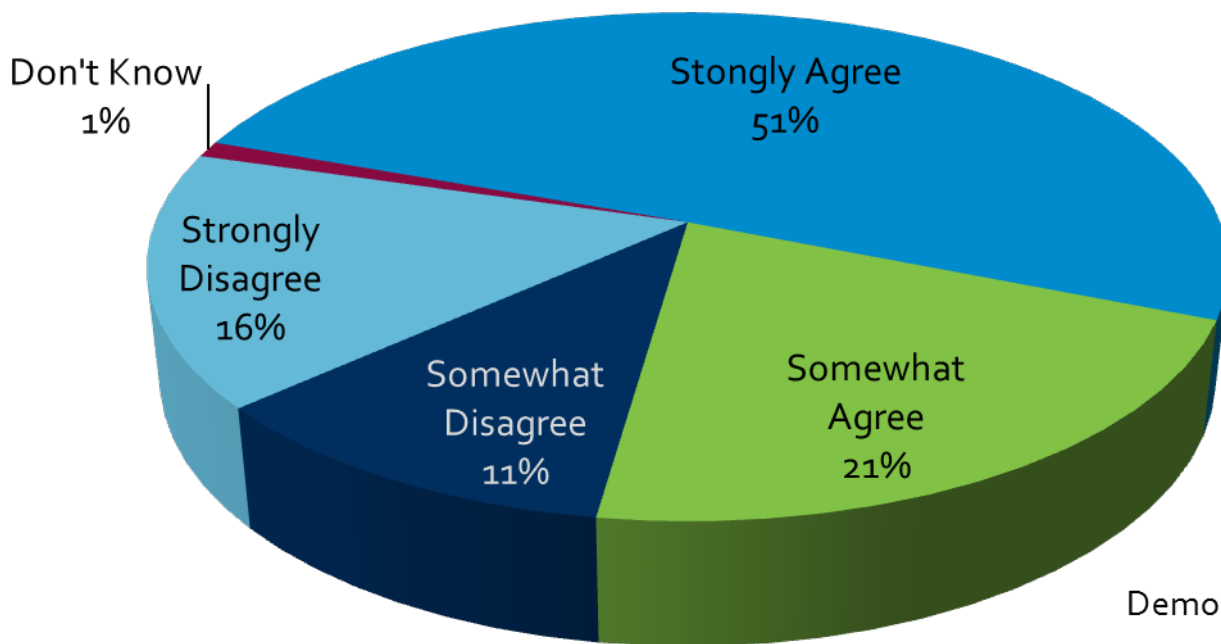
Strongly/Somewhat Agree -- by Party



A4 Presently, the federal government does not have a comprehensive understanding of what our national water resources are. Nevertheless, major taxpayer subsidies and electric power ratepayer investments are being made in water-intensive energy sources. Knowing this, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? 'U.S. energy planning and decision making must be made with full knowledge and understanding about the availability of water regionally and locally, and the impact this water use from specific energy choices has on their economies, including agricultural production.' Do you...

Base : 809

Seventy-two percent agree that 'Recent extreme weather events—such as Hurricane Sandy, wildfires in the West and worsening drought throughout much of the nation—are indications that climate change is happening now. It is time for national politicians to get serious about climate change.'

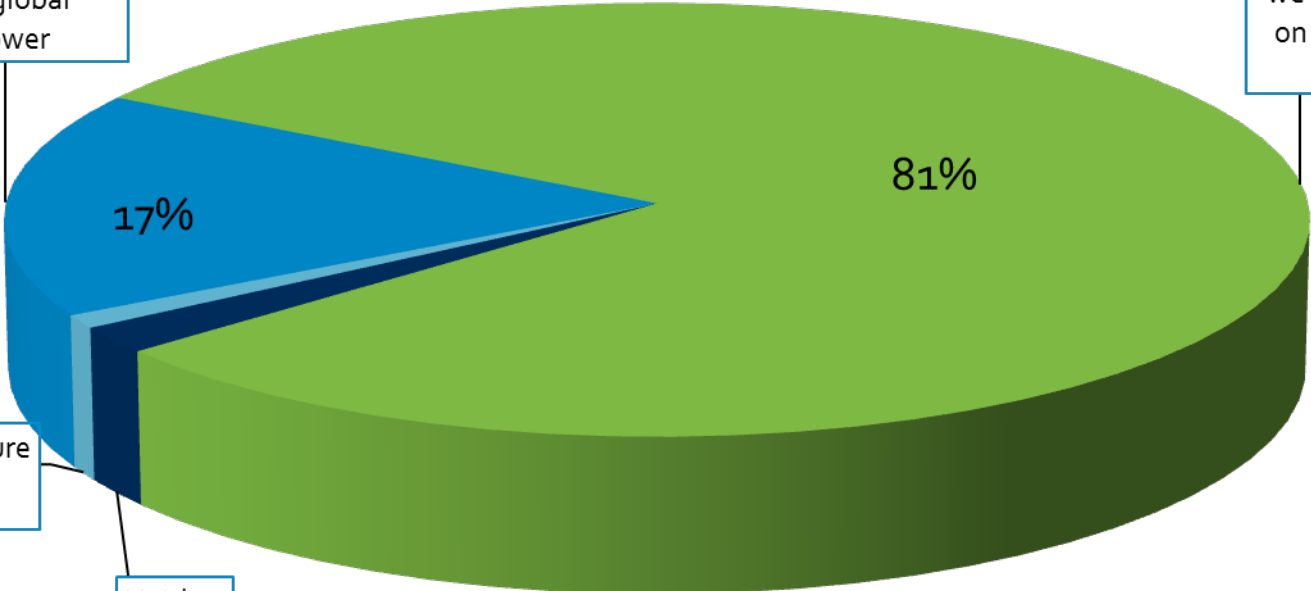


A5 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: 'Recent extreme weather events—such as Hurricane Sandy, wildfires in the West and worsening drought throughout much of the nation—are indications that climate change is happening now. It is time for national politicians to get serious about climate change.' Do you...

Views on U.S. Energy Independence

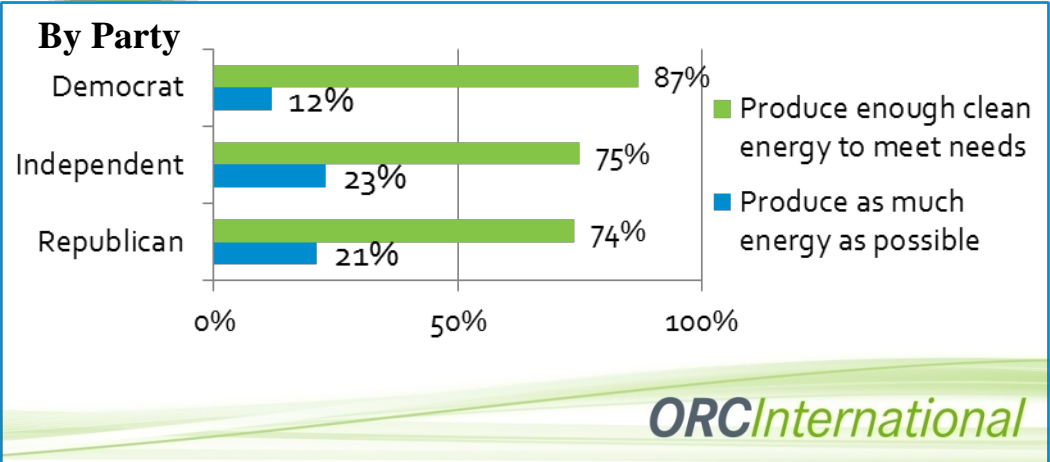
America should produce as much energy as possible and as quickly as possible for use around the world in order to advance U.S. interests as a global economic power

America should produce enough clean energy to meet America's needs in a way that doesn't harm our clean water and air so that we don't have to depend on other countries for a vital resource



Don't know/not sure
1%

Neither
2%



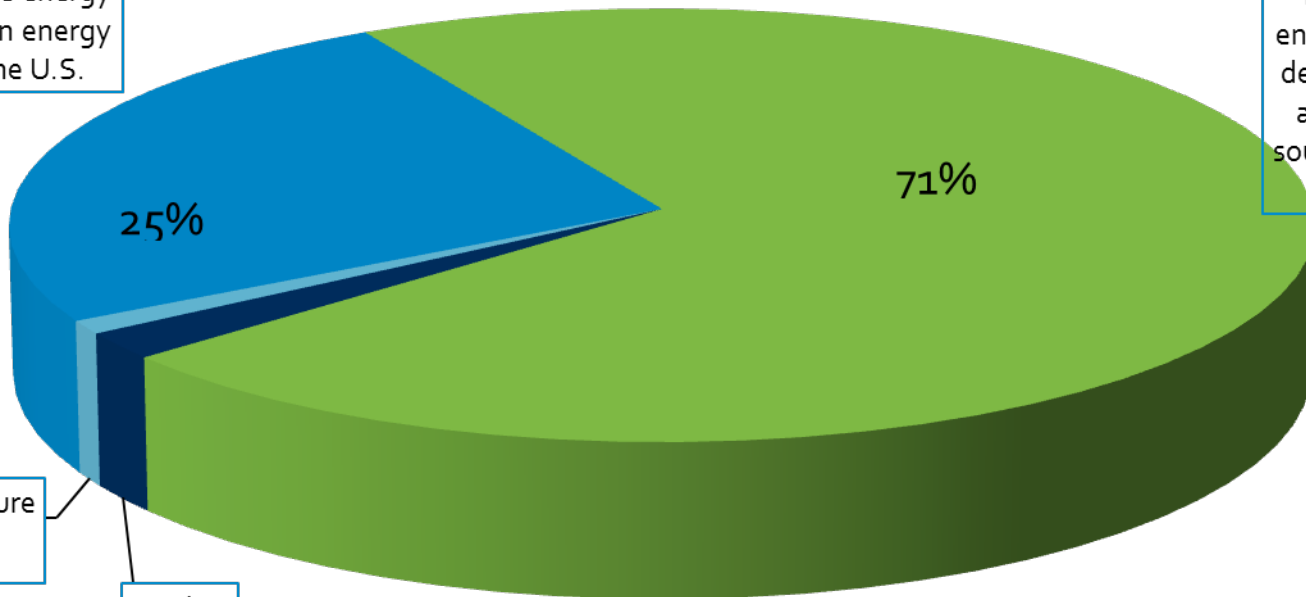
A6 Which of the following definitions of 'energy independence' comes closest to your view?

Base : 809

Best Way for America to Proceed on Energy Policy

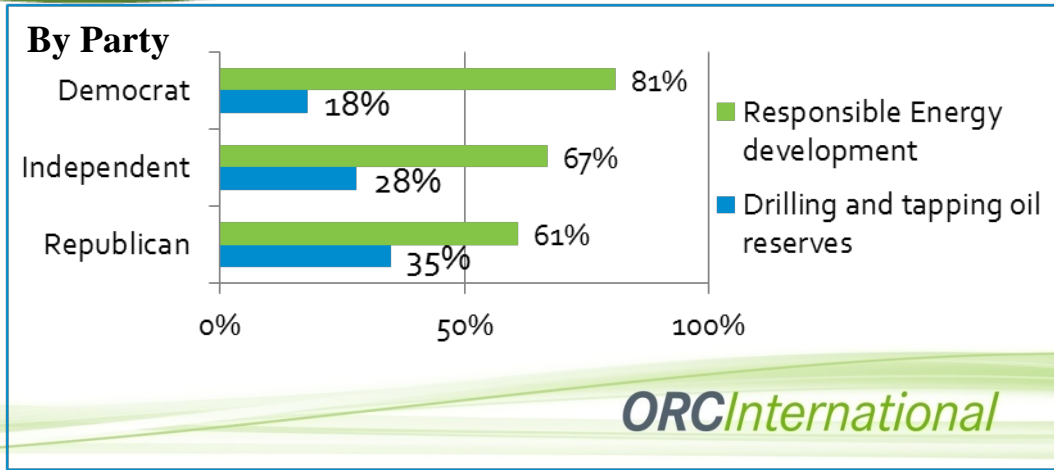
Drilling and tapping U.S. gas and oil reserves, allowing America to become an energy exporter, without a similar emphasis on more energy efficient and clean energy production in the U.S.

Allowing for responsible U.S. energy development, but also placing an emphasis on national self sufficiency through increased reliance on energy efficiency and the development of regional and local clean energy sources, such as wind and solar power



Don't know/not sure
1%

Neither
2%



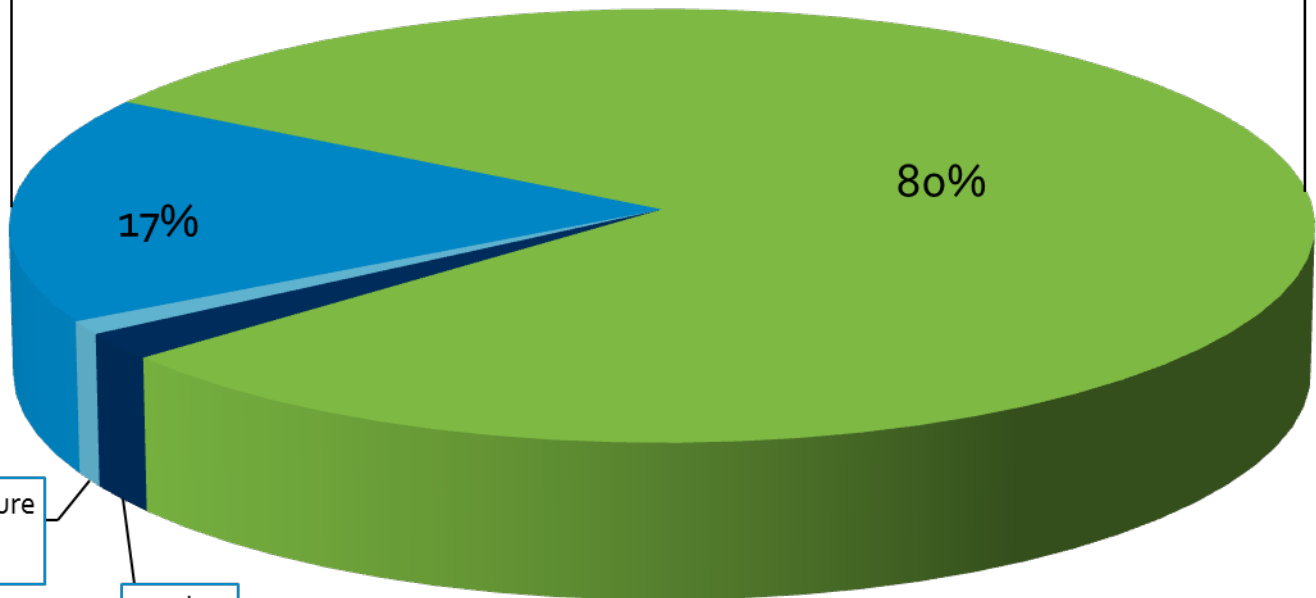
A7 Which of the following approaches do you think is the best way for America to proceed on its energy policy?

Base : 809

Eight in 10 say America should follow the "Precautionary Principle"

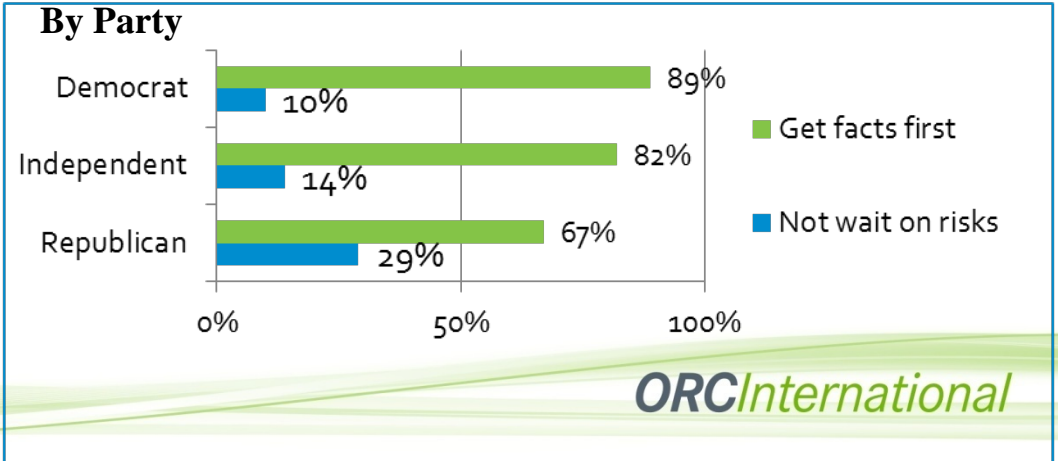
America should focus on energy production and not wait for the science on potential health and environmental risks

America should get the facts first about health and environmental risks before the potential damage is done by energy production



Don't know/not sure
1%

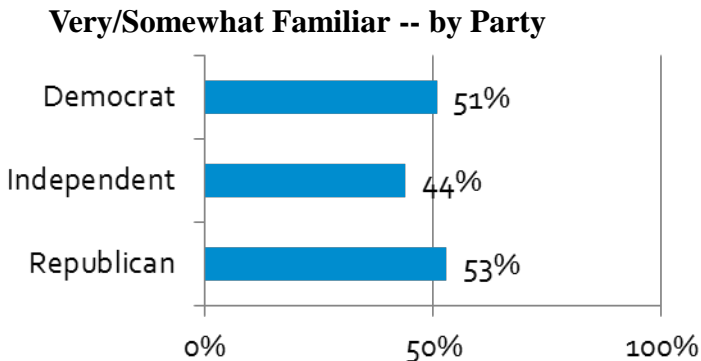
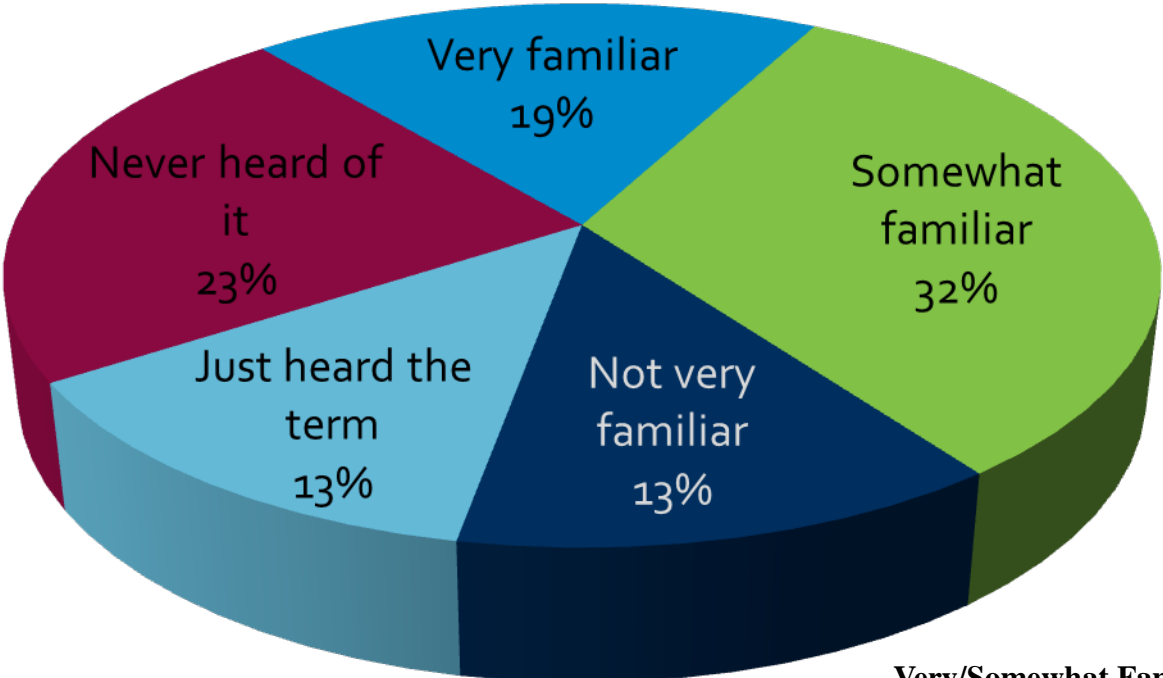
Neither
2%



A8 Some/Other people say that America should produce energy without restrictions if health and environmental dangers have not already been documented. Some/other people say that America should follow the 'precautionary principle', meaning that the health and environmental risks, if any, of energy production should be determined first before the potential damage is done. Which approach do you think makes the most sense? Would you say...

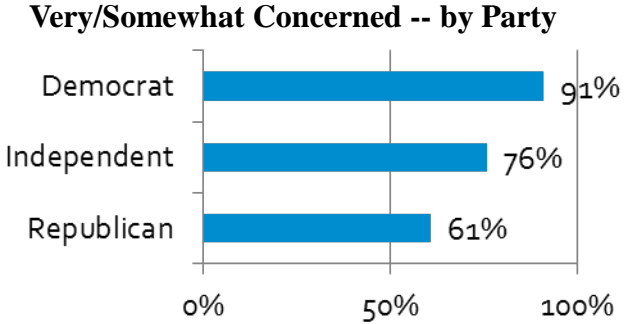
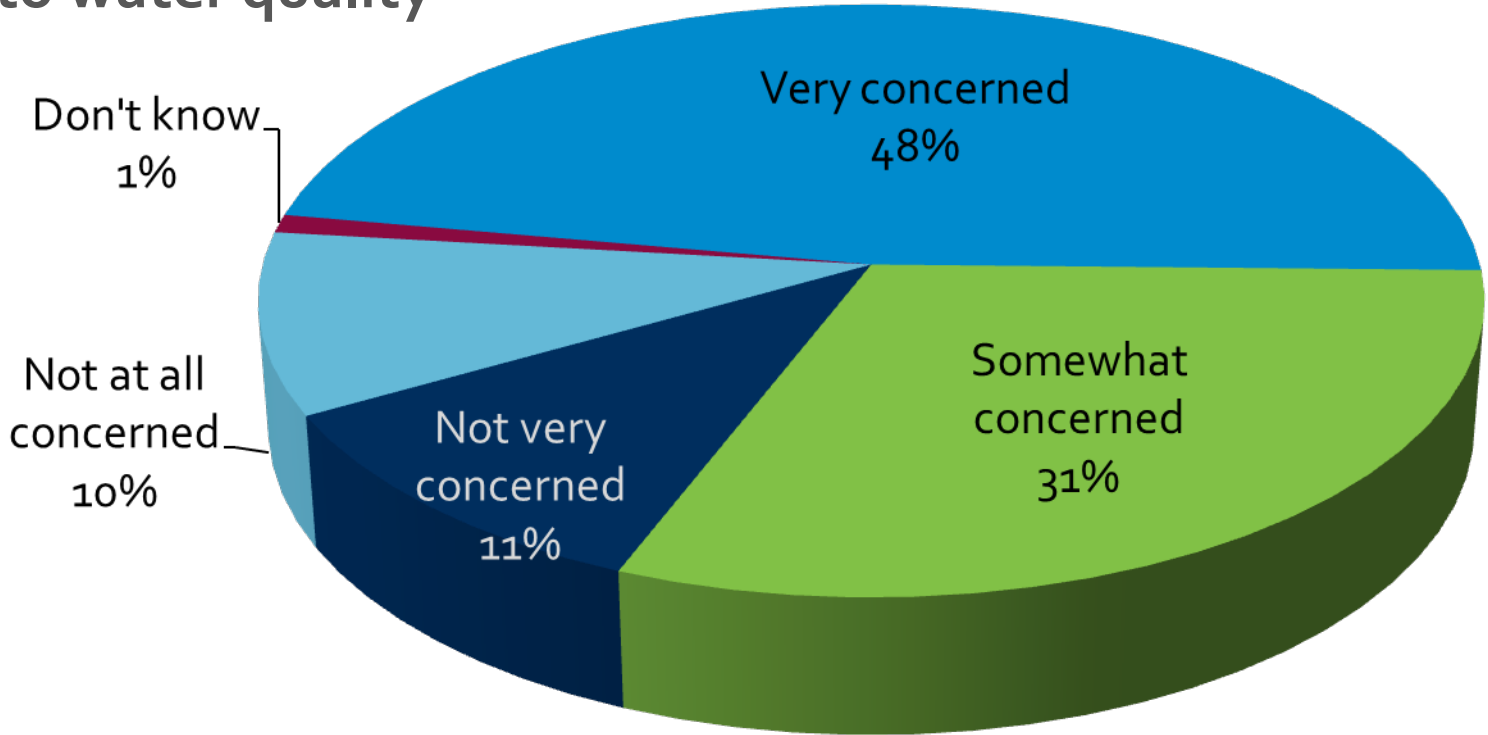
Base : 809

Three quarters (77%) had heard of “fracking,” with 51% reporting that they are very/somewhat familiar with it.



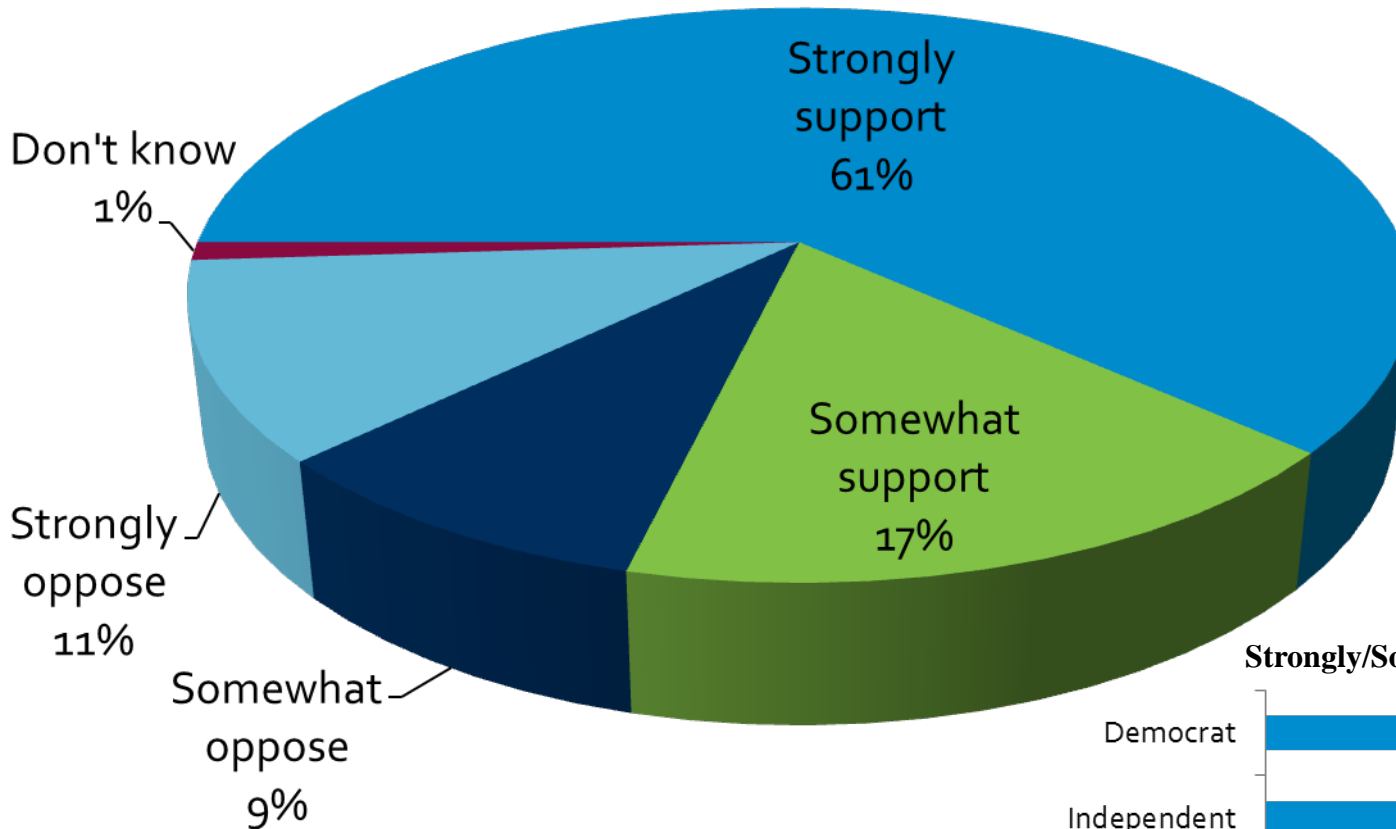
A9 Prior to this survey, how aware would you say you were about 'fracking' as an issue?

Most Americans (79%) are concerned about fracking as it relates to water quality

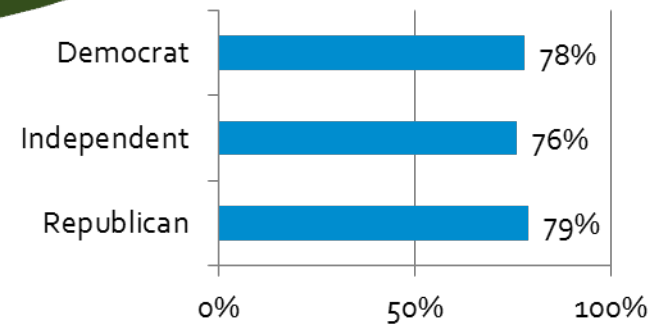


A10 Still thinking of the natural gas drilling process sometimes referred to as 'fracking', how concerned are you about this issue as it relates to water quality?

Three –quarters of Americans (78%) support disclosure of chemicals used in natural gas drilling



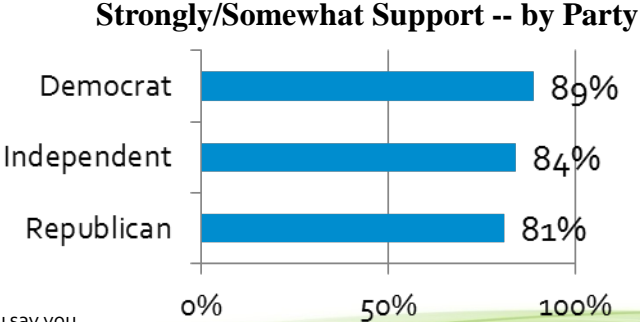
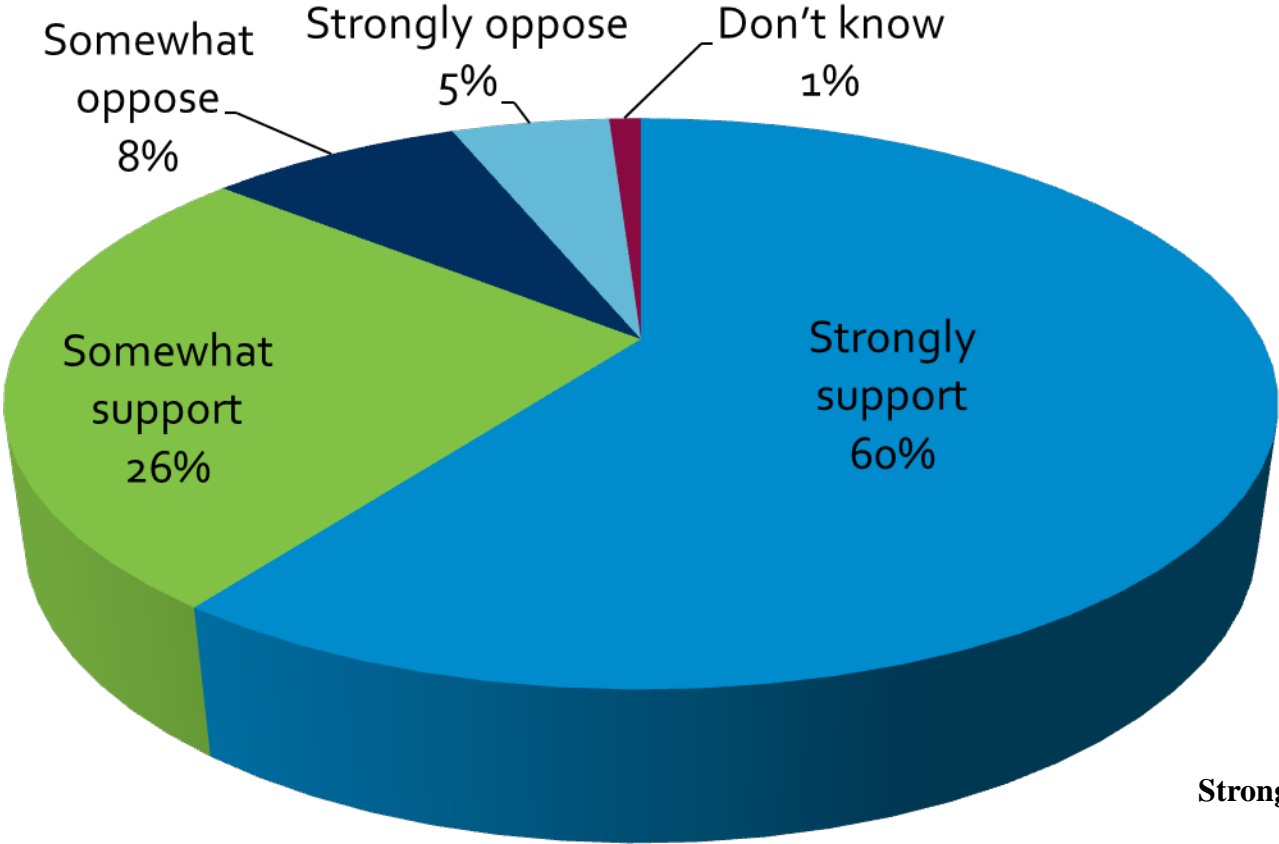
Strongly/Somewhat Agree -- by Party



A11 Currently, Congress and most states do not require energy companies that drill for natural gas to disclose the chemicals used in the process. Do you support or oppose requiring energy companies to disclose the chemicals used in drilling for natural gas? Would you say you...

Base : 809

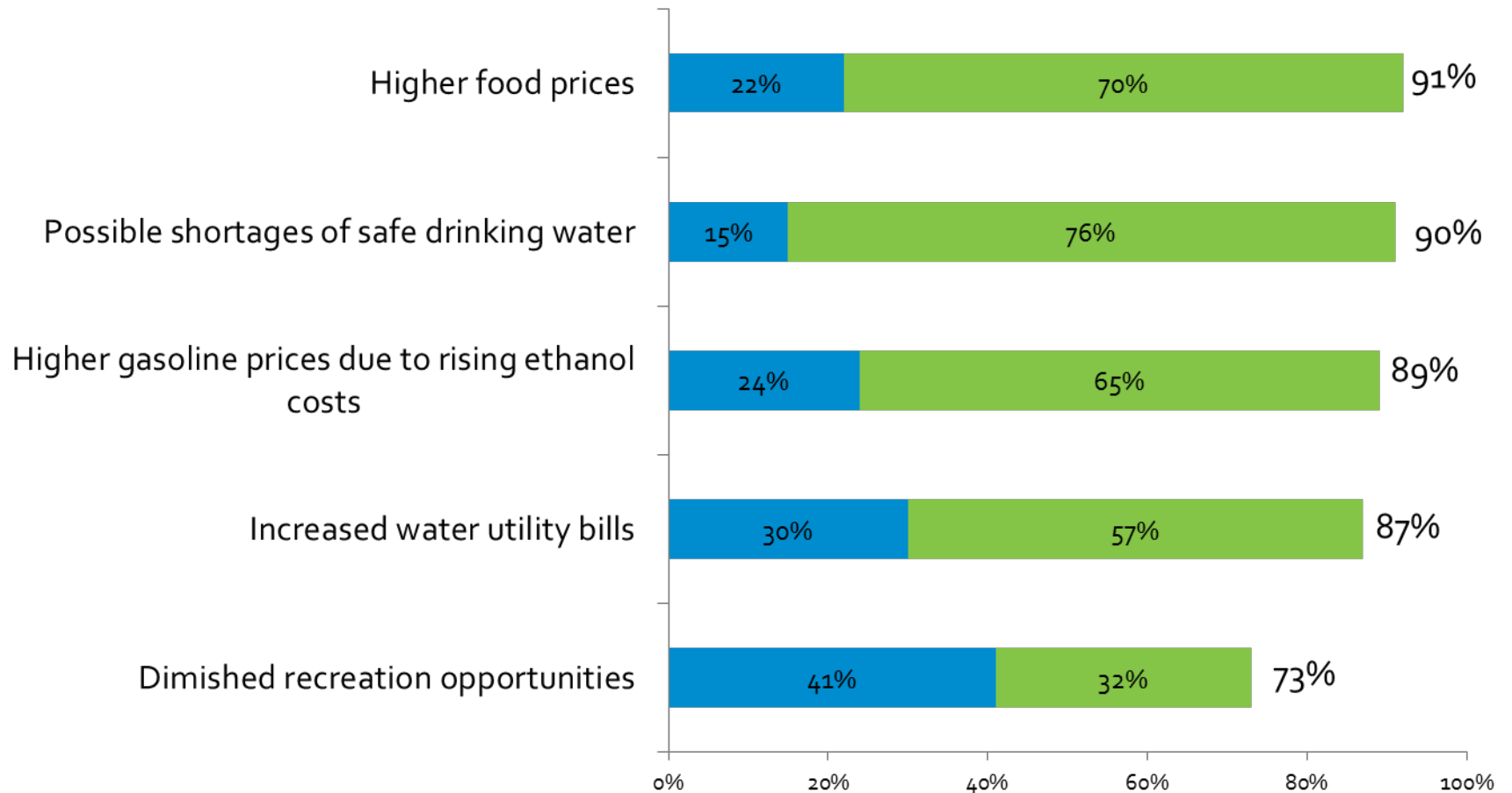
Nearly 9 out of ten (86%) Americans support more studies of the health and environmental consequences of fracking



A12 Do you support more studies of health and environmental consequences of the chemicals used in natural gas drilling? Would you say you...

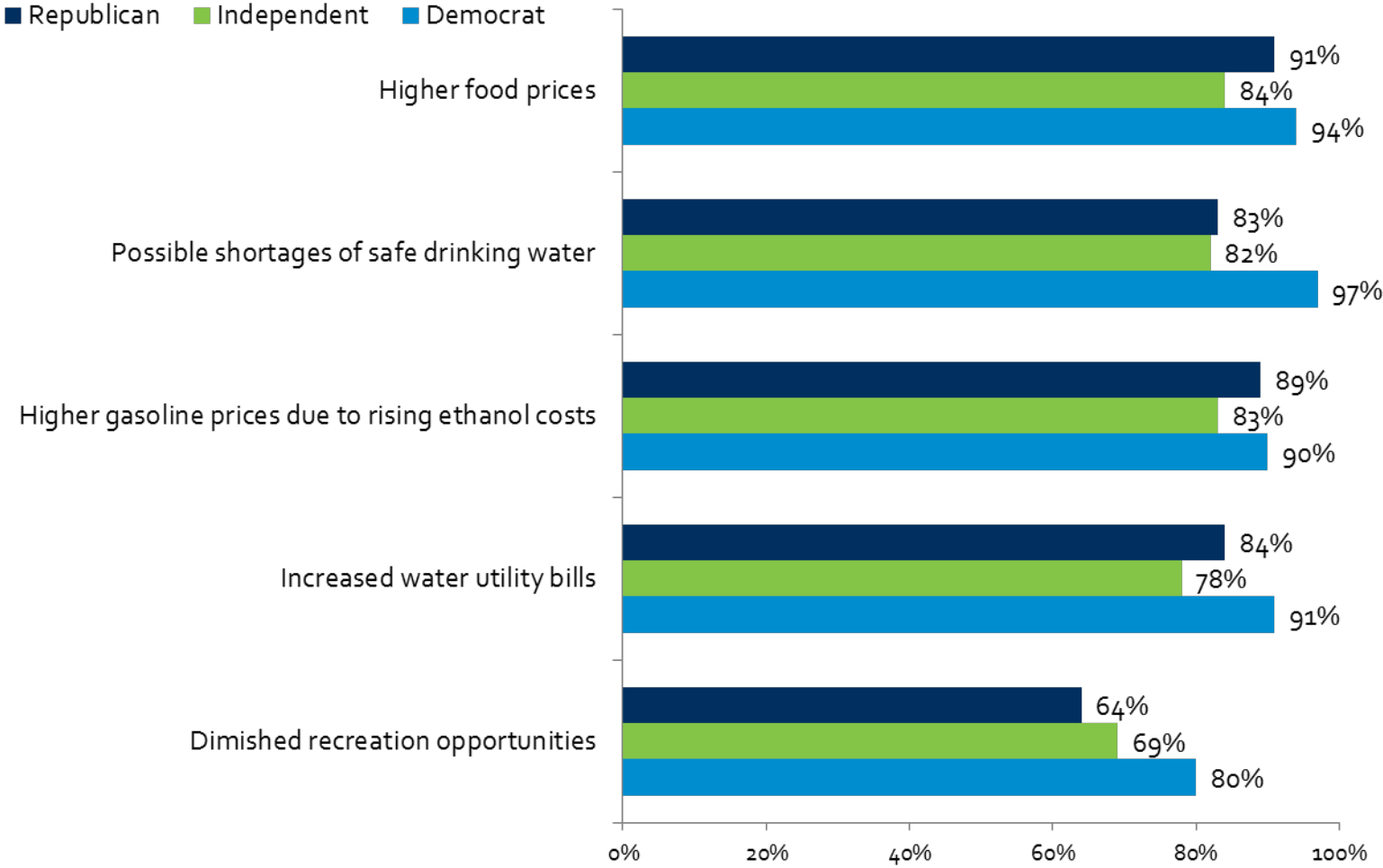
Concern About Impacts of Drought and Shortages

■ Somewhat concerned ■ Very concerned



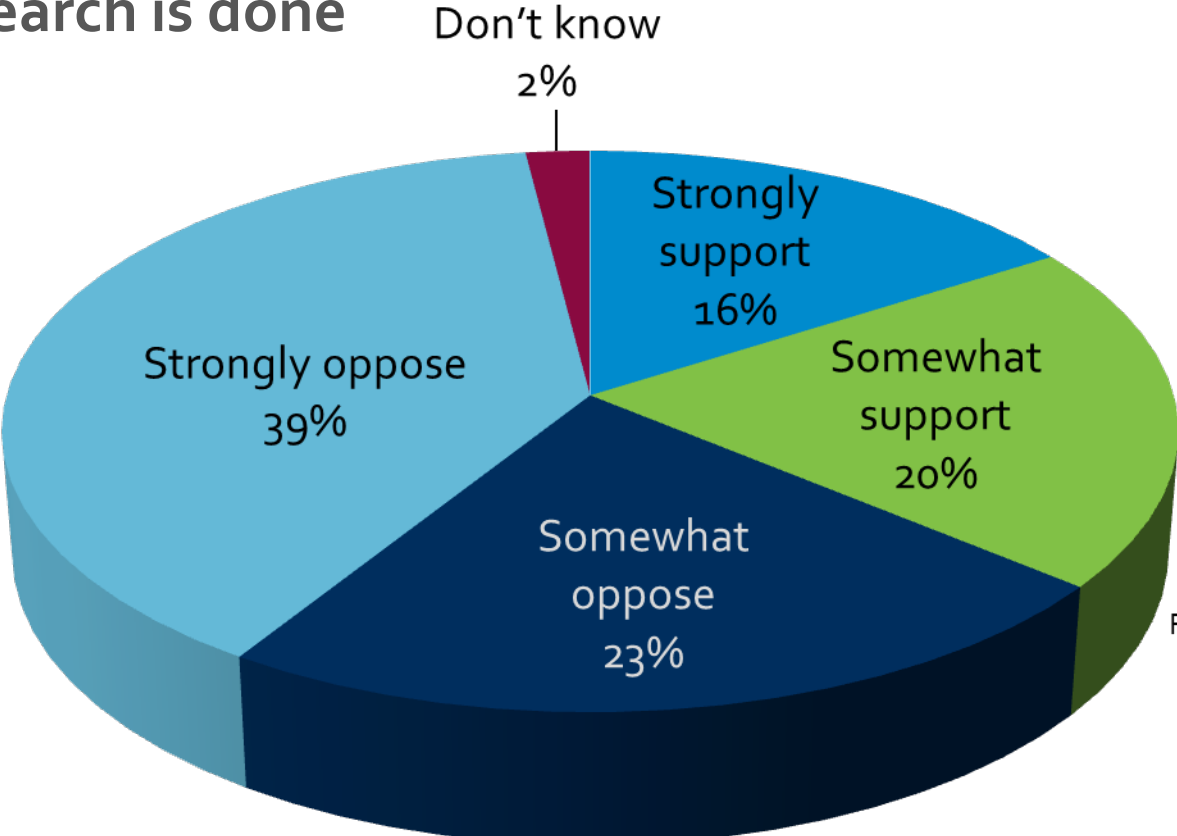
A13 I am going to go through a list of possible harmful impacts in the United States as a result of drought and shortages brought on by the diversion of water for energy and other purposes. How concerned are you about each of the following? Would you say you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not concerned at all?

Concern About Impacts of Drought and Shortages—By Political Party

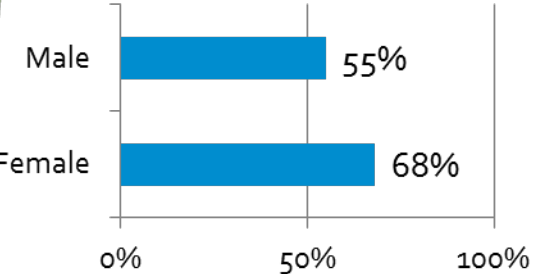


A13 I am going to go through a list of possible harmful impacts in the United States as a result of drought and shortages brought on by the diversion of water for energy and other purposes. How concerned are you about each of the following? Would you say you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not concerned at all?

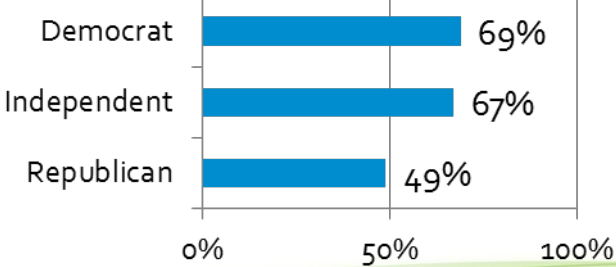
62 percent of Americans oppose “expanding U.S. production of shale gas for use by other nations” first before the health research is done



Strongly/Somewhat Oppose -- by Gender

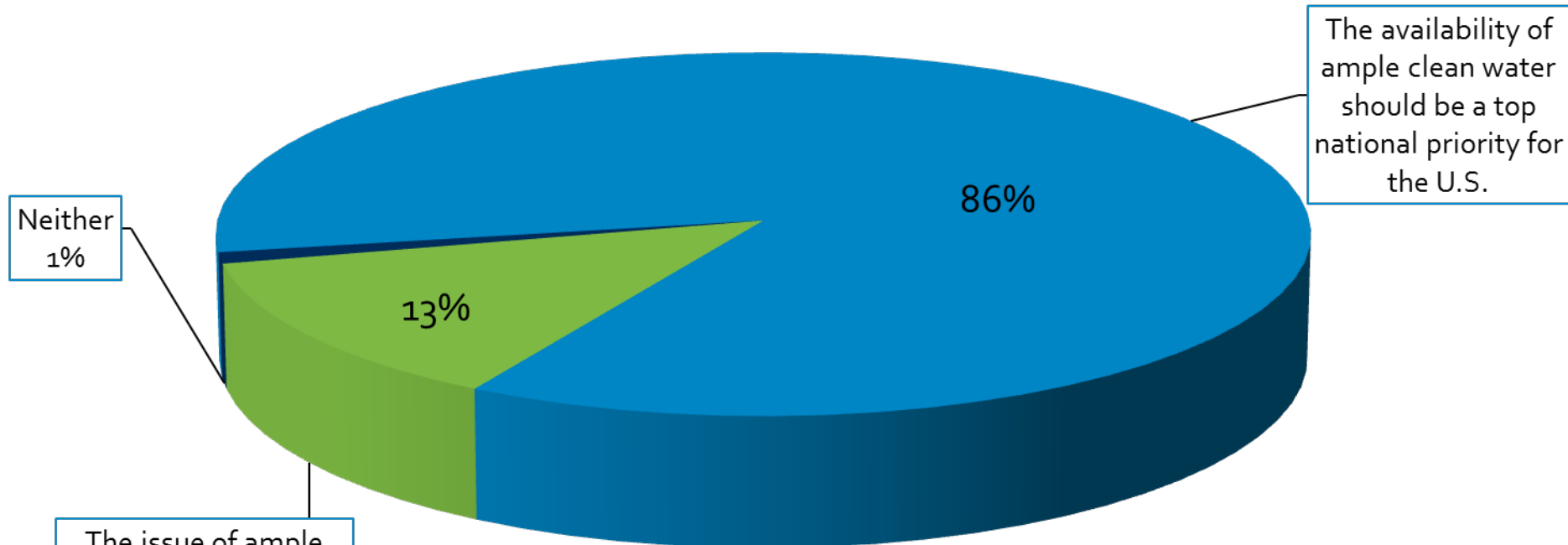


Strongly/Somewhat Oppose -- by Party



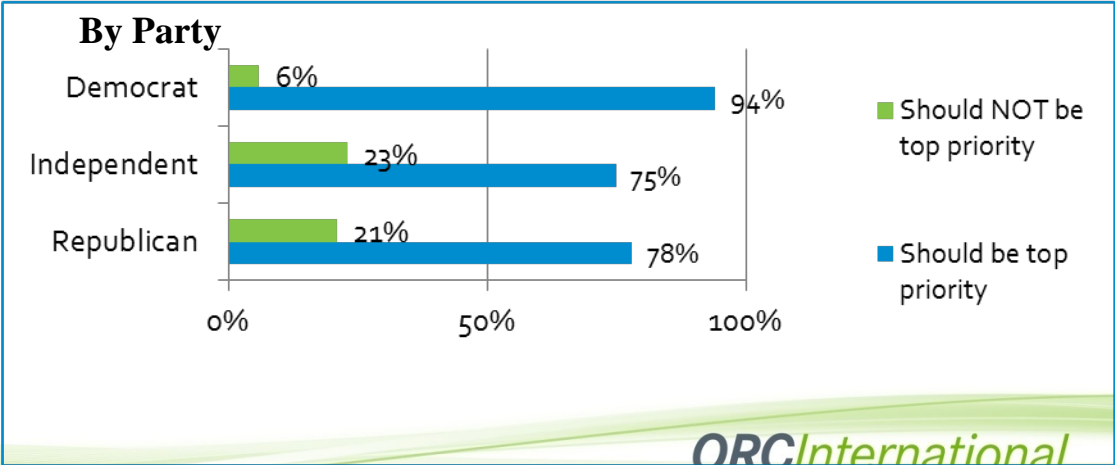
A14 Recently more than 100 leading medical professionals urged that the United States not proceed with sending U.S. shale gas overseas until health research could be done to determine the extent of the medical dangers that fracking poses to Americans. These medical professionals recommend that the White House should get the health facts first before significantly expanding extraction of shale gas for shipment to other nations. Knowing this information, do you support or oppose expanding U.S. production of shale gas for use by other nations before the recommended research is done? Would you say you...

Ample clean water should be a top national priority



The issue of ample clean water should NOT be a top national priority for the U.S.

The availability of ample clean water should be a top national priority for the U.S.



A15 Which of the following statements BEST reflects your views? Would you say...

Base : 809

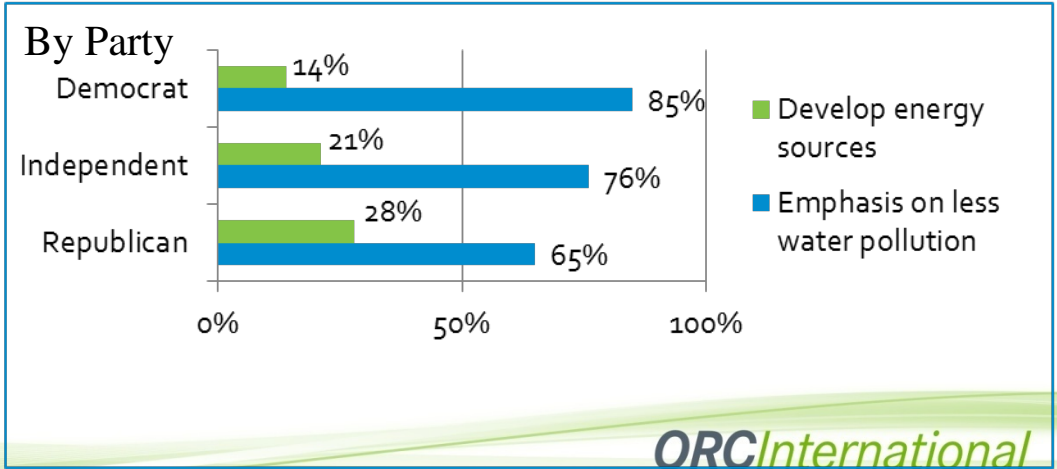
America's Focus On Future Energy Production

Neither
4%

America should put the emphasis on first developing new energy sources that require less water and result in lower water pollution



America should proceed first with developing energy sources even if they may have water pollution and water shortage downsides



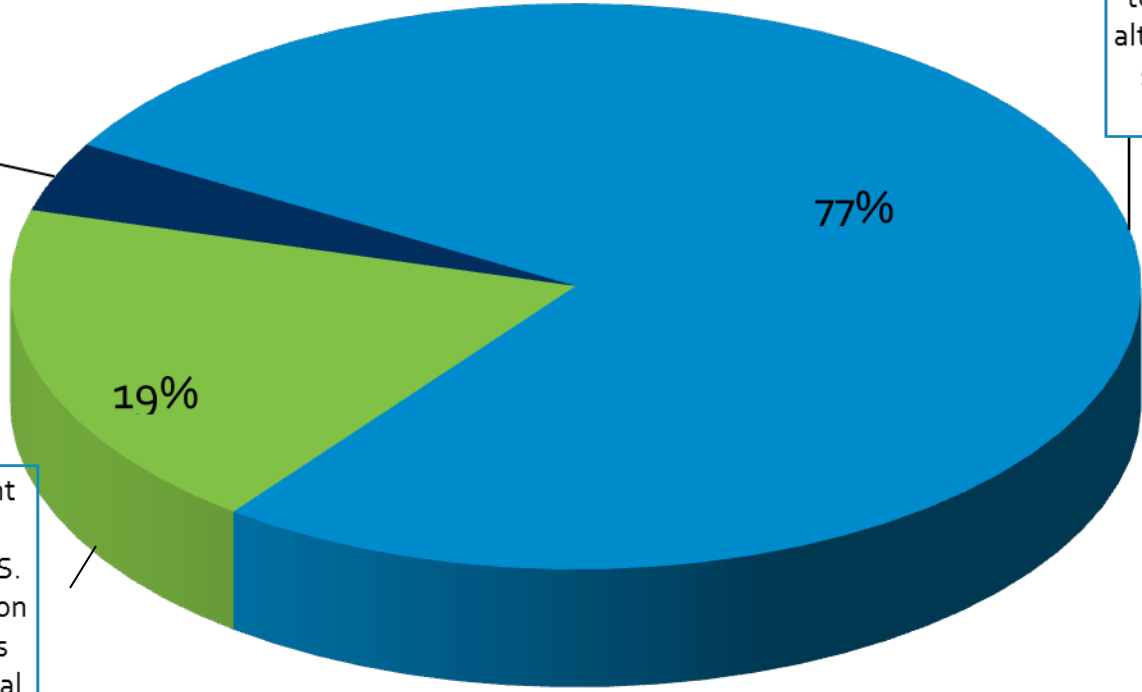
A16 Energy sources—such as natural gas, coal, tar sands, and nuclear power—require large amounts of water, which compete with other industries such as agriculture, and have raised concerns about resulting contamination of drinking water sources and the overall depletion of scarce water resources. Which of the following statements BEST expresses your view about where America should focus its energy production in the future? Would you say...

Base : 809

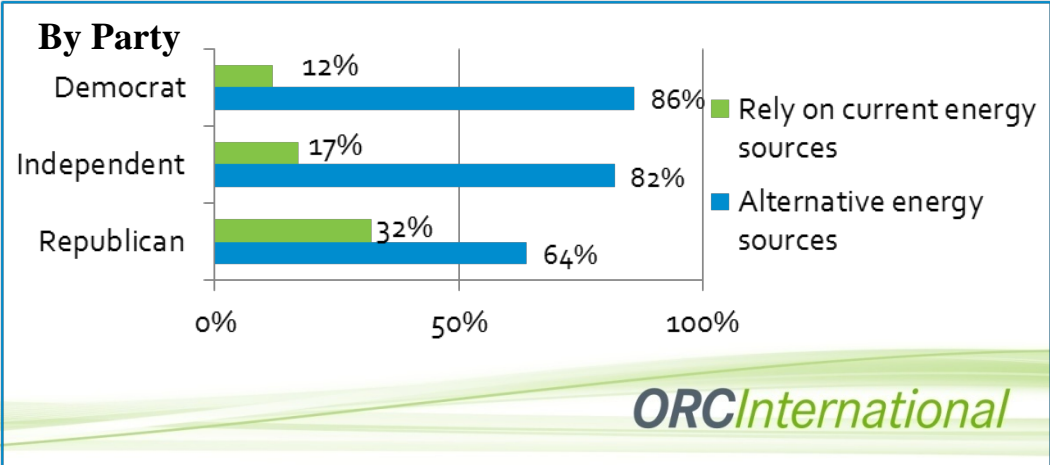
Development of Energy Sources

With all the current concern about drought and the risk of water shortages, America needs to start focusing more on alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar, that require less water

Don't know/Not sure
4%



Concerns about drought and water shortages should not deter the U.S. from continuing to rely on energy sources—such as coal, nuclear, and natural gas—that require water to produce

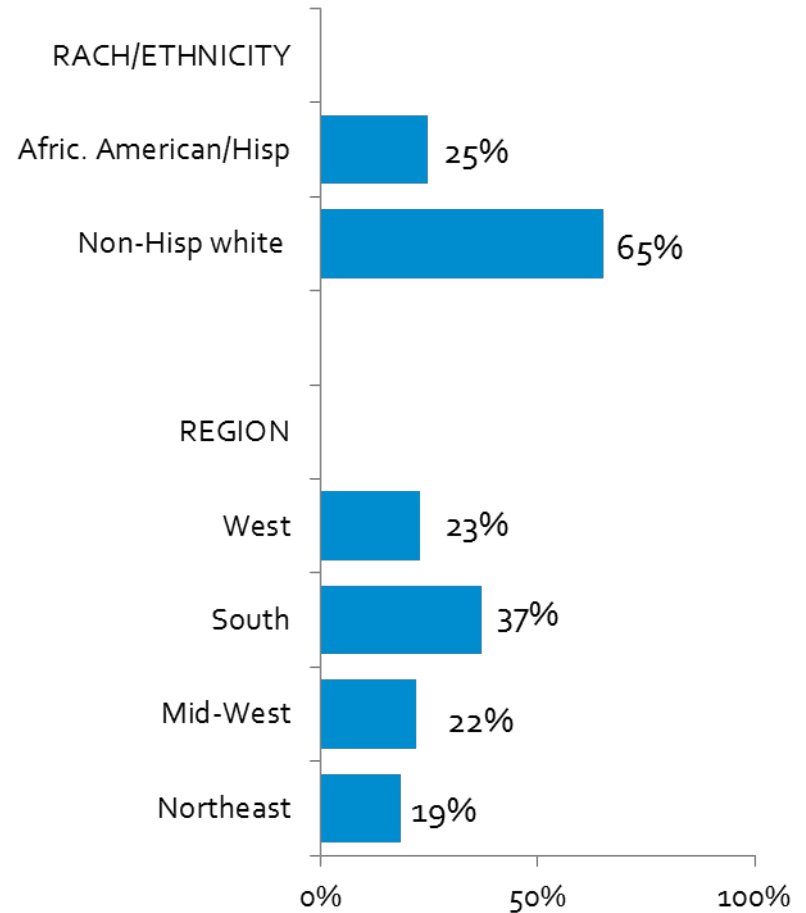
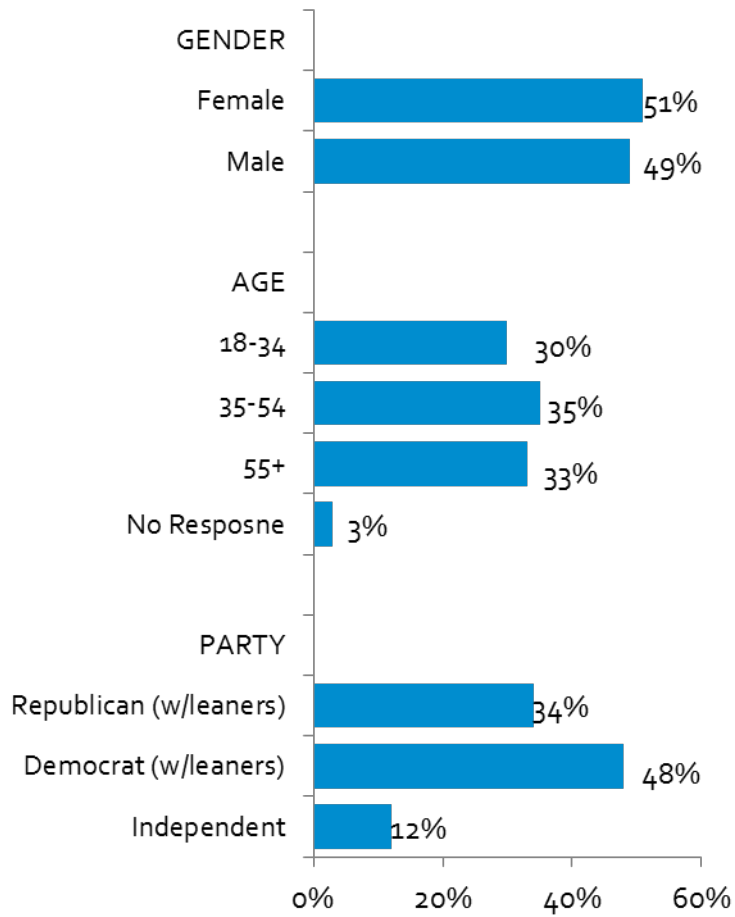


A17 Some current energy sources—including coal-fired power plants, nuclear reactors, natural gas, oil, and so on—require large amounts of water for mining, drilling, and the actual power generation process. In many cases, water that is not consumed entirely in producing these energy sources is returned to its source warmed or polluted. By contrast, wind and solar power require very little water to generate renewable power. Which of the following statements do you agree with most? Would you say...

Appendix

1

Demographic Make-up (Weighted)



Base : 809

Questionnaire

On another subject...

A1 I want to ask you about your views on leadership. When you think about President Obama and the Congress, how do you feel about the need for strong leadership on the following issues?

For each issue, would you say strong leadership is very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?
[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

A. Addressing climate change and extreme weather disasters, including hurricanes, drought, and wildfires

01 Very important **63%**
02 Somewhat important **23%**
03 Not very important **7%**
04 Not at all important **6%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

B. Balancing calls for more energy production in the U.S. with protecting our clean water and air

01 Very important **73%**
02 Somewhat important **21%**
03 Not very important **3%**
04 Not at all important **3%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

C. Shifting America from reliance on dirty or dangerous power sources, such as coal and nuclear, to clean energy sources including wind and solar

01 Very important **63%**
02 Somewhat important **23%**
03 Not very important **7%**
04 Not at all important **6%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

D. Standing up to pressure from lobbyists for the coal, oil, natural gas, and nuclear power industries

01 Very important **68%**
02 Somewhat important **18%**
03 Not very important **8%**
04 Not at all important **4%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **3%**

E. Avoiding pressure for U.S. energy production that could result in higher fuel prices for Americans

01 Very important **68%**
02 Somewhat important **19%**
03 Not very important **7%**
04 Not at all important **3%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **3%**

F. Caution when it comes to exporting energy – such as natural gas – that could boost China and other economies, but hurt U.S. consumers by raising energy and manufacturing costs at home

01 Very important **68%**
02 Somewhat important **19%**
03 Not very important **6%**
04 Not at all important **4%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **3%**

A2 How important do you think it is that your Member of Congress and U.S. Senators demonstrate leadership on the national agenda for clean energy and protecting America's clean water and air? Would you say...
(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Very important **68%**
- 02 Somewhat important **23%**
- 03 Not very important **6%**
- 04 Not at all important **3%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE *

A3 Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statement.

'A grassroots movement of Americans is necessary to counter the influence of energy industry lobbyists and campaign contributions on politicians in Washington, D.C.'

Would you say you...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Strongly agree **33%**
- 02 Somewhat agree **41%**
- 03 Somewhat disagree **13%**
- 04 Strongly disagree **9%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **4%**

A4 Presently, the federal government does not have a comprehensive understanding of what our national water resources are. Nevertheless, major taxpayer subsidies and electric power ratepayer investments are being made in water-intensive energy sources. Knowing this, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

‘U.S. energy planning and decision making must be made with full knowledge and understanding about the availability of water regionally and locally, and the impact this water use from specific energy choices has on their economies, including agricultural production.’

Do you...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Strongly agree **63%**
- 02 Somewhat agree **29%**
- 03 Somewhat disagree **4%**
- 04 Strongly disagree **3%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **2%**

A5 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: ‘Recent extreme weather events -- such as Hurricane Sandy, wildfires in the West and worsening drought throughout much of the nation -- are indications that climate change is happening now. It is time for national politicians to get serious about climate change.’

Do you...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Strongly agree **50%**
- 02 Somewhat agree **21%**
- 03 Somewhat disagree **11%**
- 04 Strongly disagree **16%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

A6 Which of the following definitions of 'energy dependence' comes closest to your view?
(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)
[ROTATE 01-02]

- 01 America should produce as much energy as possible and as quickly as possible for use around the world in order to advance U.S. interests as a global economic power (or) **17%**
- 02 America should produce enough energy to meet America's needs in a way that doesn't harm our clean water and air so that we don't have to depend on other countries for a vital resource (or) **81%**
- 98 NEITHER OF THESE **2%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

A7 Which of the following approaches do you think is the best way for America to proceed on its energy policy?
(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)
[ROTATE 01-02]

- 01 Drilling and tapping U.S. gas and oil reserves, allowing America to become an energy exporter, without a similar emphasis on more energy efficient and clean energy production in the U.S. (or) **25%**
- 02 Allowing for responsible U.S. energy development, but also placing an emphasis on national self sufficiency through increased reliance on energy efficiency and the development of regional and local clean energy sources, such as wind and solar power (or) **71%**
- 98 NEITHER OF THESE **2%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

A8 (Some/Other) people say that America should produce energy without restrictions if health and environmental dangers have not already been documented.

(Some/Other) people say that America should follow the 'precautionary principle', meaning that the health and environmental risks, if any, of energy production should be determined first before the potential damage is done.

Which approach do you think makes the most sense? Would you say...
(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)
[ROTATE 01-02 IN SAME ORDER AS QUESTION STATEMENTS]

- 01 America should focus on energy production and not wait for the science on potential health and environmental risks (or) **17%**
- 02 America should get the facts first about health and environmental risks before the potential damage is done by energy production (or) **80%**
- 98 NEITHER OF THESE **2%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

The following questions are about a natural gas drilling process sometimes referred to as 'fracking', which requires large amounts of water. 'Fracking' involves blasting millions of gallons of water mixed with chemicals and sand into the ground to release natural gas from rock formations thousands of feet underground. Concerned homeowners and others say the process can poison drinking water supplies, but oil and gas industry representatives say there's no proof that 'fracking' chemicals have contaminated drinking water.

A9 Prior to this survey, how aware would you say you were about 'fracking' as an issue? Would you say you were...
(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Very familiar with the issue **19%**
- 02 Somewhat familiar **32%**
- 03 Not very familiar **13%**
- 04 You just heard the term fracking, but don't know much about it **13%**
- 05 Or, you never heard of it **23%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE *

A10 Still thinking of the natural gas drilling process sometimes referred to as ‘fracking’, how concerned are you about this issue as it relates to water quality?

Are you...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Very concerned **48%**
- 02 Somewhat concerned **31%**
- 03 Not very concerned **11%**
- 04 Not at all concerned **10%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

A11 Currently, Congress and most states do not require energy companies that drill for natural gas to disclose the chemicals used in the process. Do you support or oppose requiring energy companies to disclose the chemicals used in drilling for natural gas?

Would you say you...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Strongly support **61%**
- 02 Somewhat support **17%**
- 03 Somewhat oppose **9%**
- 04 Strongly oppose **11%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

A12 Do you support more studies of the health and environmental consequences of the chemicals used in natural gas drilling?

Would you say you...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Strongly support **60%**
- 02 Somewhat support **26%**
- 03 Somewhat oppose **8%**
- 04 Strongly oppose **5%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

A13 I am going to go through a list of possible harmful impacts in the United States as a result of drought and shortages brought on by the diversion of water for energy and other purposes. How concerned are you about each of the following?

Would you say you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not concerned at all?
[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

A. Possible shortages of safe drinking water

01 Very concerned **76%**
02 Somewhat concerned **15%**
03 Not very concerned **5%**
04 Not concerned at all **4%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE *

B. Higher food prices

01 Very concerned **70%**
02 Somewhat concerned **22%**
03 Not very concerned **5%**
04 Not concerned at all **3%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE *

C. Higher gasoline prices due to rising ethanol costs

01 Very concerned **65%**
02 Somewhat concerned **24%**
03 Not very concerned **7%**
04 Not concerned at all **3%**
99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

D. Increased water utility bills

- 01 Very concerned **57%**
- 02 Somewhat concerned **30%**
- 03 Not very concerned **9%**
- 04 Not concerned at all **4%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

E. Diminished recreation opportunities

- 01 Very concerned **32%**
- 02 Somewhat concerned **41%**
- 03 Not very concerned **16%**
- 04 Not concerned at all **8%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **3%**

For the next few questions, we will use the term 'shale gas' to refer to natural gas from the extraction process known as 'fracking'.

A14 Recently, more than 100 leading medical professionals urged that the United States not proceed with sending U.S. shale gas overseas until health research could be done to determine the extent of the medical dangers that fracking poses to Americans. These medical professionals recommended that the White House should get the health facts first before significantly expanding extraction of shale gas for shipment to other nations.

Knowing this information, do you support or oppose expanding U.S. production of shale gas for use by other nations before the recommended research is done?

Would you say you...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

- 01 Strongly support **16%**
- 02 Somewhat support **20%**
- 03 Somewhat oppose **23%**
- 04 Strongly oppose **39%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **2%**

A15 Which of the following statements BEST reflects your views? Would you say...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

[ROTATE 01-02]

- 01 The availability of ample clean water should be a top national priority for the U.S. (or) **86%**
- 02 The issue of ample clean water should NOT be a top national priority for the U.S. (or) **13%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **1%**

A16 Energy sources – such as natural gas, coal, tar sands, and nuclear power – require large amounts of water, which compete with other industries such as agriculture, and have raised concerns about resulting contamination of drinking water sources and the overall depletion of scarce water resources.

Which of the following statements BEST expresses your view about where America should focus its energy production in the future?

Would you say...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

[ROTATE 01-02]

- 01 Water shortages and the availability of clean drinking water are real concerns. America should put the emphasis on first developing new energy sources that require less water and result in lower water pollution (or) **76%**
- 02 America should proceed first with developing energy sources even if they may have water pollution and water shortage downsides (or) **20%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **4%**

A17 Some current energy sources – including coal-fired power plants, nuclear reactors, natural gas, oil, and so on – require large amounts of water for mining, drilling, and the actual power generation process. In many cases, water that is not consumed entirely in producing these energy sources is returned to its source warmed or polluted. By contrast, wind and solar power require very little water to generate renewable power.

Which of the following statements do you agree with most? Would you say...

(READ ENTIRE LIST BEFORE RECORDING ONE ANSWER)

[ROTATE 01-02]

- 01 With all the current concern about drought and the risk of water shortages, America needs to start focusing more on alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar, that require less water (or) **77%**
- 02 Concerns about drought and water shortages should not deter the U.S. from continuing to rely on energy sources – such as coal, nuclear, and natural gas – that require water to produce (or) **19%**
- 99 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **4%**